TRENDS

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5/4/89

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 29 totaled 352,845, up 0.5 percent from the comparable week of 1988, but down 0.4 percent from the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 0.4 percent in the East and 0.6 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, metallic ores were up 3,143 cars (15.9 percent), loadings of chemicals rose 4,016 cars (15.4 percent), and coal loadings were up 2,854 cars (2.3 percent). Grain loadings were down 4,401 cars (13.9 percent) and lumber and wood products were down 1,505 cars (17.1 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 17 weeks of 1989 totaled 5,696,988, up 0.6 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 114,541 trailers and/or containers for the week ended April 29, up 1.0 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 17 weeks of 1989 was 1,908,617 trailers and/or containers, up 1.8 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended April 29 totaled 20.0 billion, 1.0 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 17 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 328.9 billion ton-miles, up 1.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 29, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING APRIL 29, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	27,344	31,745	-13.9 %	29,659	-7.8 %
Farm Products, Ex Grain	2,188	2,128	2.8	2,501	-12.5
Metallic Ores	22,909	19,766	15.9	21,385	7.1
Coal	124,863	122,009	2.3	128,045	-2.5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,819	16,188	3.9	16,326	3.0
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,906	11,056	-10.4	9,696	2.2
Grain Mill Products	10,343	10,678	-3.1	10,152	1.9
Food & Kindred Products	8,995	8,780	2.4	8,843	1.7
Primary Forest Products	9,936	9,615	3.3	9,435	5.3
Lumber & Wood Products	7,279	8,784	-17.1	6,882	5.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,688	11,259	-5.1	10,427	2.5
Chemicals	30,176	26,160	15.4	30,272	-.3
Petroleum Products	5,198	5,107	1.8	5,218	-.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,843	10,784	.5	11,126	-2.5
Coke	5,192	6,269	-17.2	5,728	-9.4
Metals & Products	10,634	11,589	-8.2	9,897	7.4
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	22,199	21,258	4.4	21,872	1.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,698	10,040	-3.4	9,387	3.3
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	11	28	-60.7	6	83.3
All Other Carloads	7,624	7,957	-4.2	7,344	3.8
Total	352,845	351,200	.5 %	354,201	-.4 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING APRIL 29, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 17 WEEKS ENDING APRIL 29, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	352,845	351,200	.5 %	5,696,988	5,661,917	.6 %
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	67,759	68,516	-1.1	1,111,044	1,140,353	-2.6
Containers	46,782	44,839	4.3	797,573	734,007	8.7
Total	114,541	113,355	1.0	1,908,617	1,874,360	1.8
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.0	19.8	1.0 %	328.9	325.1	1.2 %

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